WHOSE SIDE...

...ARE YOU ON?

CIVIL WAR™

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A MARVEL COMICS® EVENT IN SEVEN PARTS

THE MARVEL UNIVERSE IS CHANGING. AFTER THE RASH ACTIONS OF FOUR YOUNG HEROES CAUSE THE DESTRUCTION OF STAMFORD, CONNECTICUT, A SUPERHUMAN REGISTRATION ACT IS PASSED, REQUIRING ALL THOSE POSSESSING PARANORMAL ABILITIES TO REGISTER WITH THE GOVERNMENT. REACTION AMONG THE SUPER HEROES IS SPLIT DOWN THE MIDDLE, WITH AN AWOL CAPTAIN AMERICA ON ONE SIDE AND A PRO-REGISTRATION IRON MAN ON THE OTHER. NOW, TWO ARMIES OF SUPER HEROES COME FACE-TO-FACE FOR A FINAL BATTLE THAT WILL DETERMINE THE DESTINY OF SUPERHUMANS IN THE UNITED STATES.

MARVEL®

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CIVIL WAR

A Superhuman Registration Act has been passed which requires all individuals possessing paranormal abilities to register with the government. Those who do not register are considered criminals. Some heroes, such as Iron Man, see this as a natural evolution of the role of superhumans in society and a reasonable request. But Captain America has gathered an underground resistance movement against the new law.

As conflicts rage and tensions rise, heroes on both sides change their allegiances, switching between the pro- and anti-registration camps. Finally, the resistance mounts an attack on the pro-registration faction's holding facility in the Negative Zone. But Iron Man and his forces are lying in ambush.

The battle is joined…

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THE NEGATIVE ZONE:

AVENGERS ASSEMBLE!

WHAT'S HE TALKING ABOUT? I THOUGHT *OUR SIDE* WAS THE AVENGERS.

UGH!

C'MON, *HURRY UP!*

I'M *FINISHED!* IT'S *DONE!* THE GATEWAY BACK TO RYKER'S LOCKS IN *T-MINUS FIVE SECONDS...*

ARE WE TOO LATE?

NO SUCH THING, DAGGER. RYKER'S WAS THE *OFFICIAL* DOORWAY FROM THE NEGATIVE ZONE, BUT THERE'S STILL *ONE MORE* IF I CAN REMEMBER THAT SIXTY-NINE-DIGIT CODE...

I'M ALL TICKED OFF AND I BROUGHT MY *CAN-OPENER*, SHELL-HEAD!

SPIDER-MAN!

WHOOF!

JUST SO LONG AS YOU REMEMBERED THE BANDAGES!

BLACK PANTHER'S OVERRIDING *OUR SYSTEM*, COMMANDER HILL! PROGRAM SAYS HE'S REROUTING THEIR BRIDGE TO *THE BAXTER BUILDING!*

CLOSE IT DOWN! NOW! THEY ESCAPE AND IT'S YOUR HEAD, DUBLONSKY!

THEY'RE *ONTO* US! THEY'RE CLOSING *REED'S PORTAL!* WE'VE GOT *TEN SECONDS* AND *COUNTING!*

PASSWORD:

CLOAK, IT'S ME. WE NEED THE BIGGEST TELEPORT YOU'VE EVER *PULLED*. T'CHALLA'S SENDING THE *COORDINATES.*

I *CAN'T*. IT'S TOO *DANGEROUS*. THERE MUST BE A *HUNDRED PEOPLE* HERE--

YOU EITHER *PULL THIS OFF* OR WE'RE STUCK IN HERE *FOREVER*, TYRONE! *DO IT!*

I WILL *TRY...*

WHAT THE *HELL?!*

OH, GOD. TELL ME THAT ISN'T CLOAK!

OUTSIDE THE BAXTER BUILDING, NEW YORK:

ALL THE FLYERS, GRAB A FRIEND!

NOW!

THAT'S FOR SCREWING UP *THE PLAN*, CREEP!

IRON MAN TO ALL POINTS: EVACUATE THE AREA AND CONTAIN THE FIGHT TO MIDTOWN! I WANT NO CIVILIAN CASUALTIES! YOU HEAR ME? NO CIVILIAN CASUALTIES!

YOU THINK I'M STUPID, SON?

UNGH!

EVERYBODY THIS WAY! NICE AND CALM! YOU FOLKS TAKE YOUR TIME AND NOBODY'S GONNA GET HURT!

UNGH!

HUFF!

UGH!

AGH!

AMAZING.

SPECTACULAR.

WHERE'S CAP? SOMEBODY FIND CAPTAIN AMERICA! HE'S TOO DANGEROUS TO BE LEFT OUT THERE UNCHECKED!

DOESN'T LOOK TOO DANGEROUS TO ME!

ME NEITHER!

UNH!

MAN, IS THIS THE *LIVING LEGEND* OF *WORLD WAR TWO*? WHO WAS HE *FIGHTING*? *BING CROSBY*?

WHAT'S SO *FUNNY*, CAPTAIN? YOU LIKE OUR *LITTLE JOKES*? YOU SHARE BULLSEYE'S *SENSE OF HUMOR*?

NO, I'M JUST THINKING ABOUT MY *PAL* UP THERE KICKING YOUR BUTTS INTO *NEXT WEEK*...

WHAT?

IMPERIUS REX!

IT'S NAMOR. WE'RE DEAD. WITH THEM ON HIS SIDE, CAP'S GOING TO WIPE THE FLOOR WITH US.

TAKE IT EASY, SHE-HULK. WE'RE COVERED. YOU THINK WE'VE BEEN SITTING ON OUR HANDS THESE LAST FEW MONTHS?

HAVE AT THEE, VILE TRAITORS!!

WHAT HE SAID.

YOU AND ME AGAIN, CAP. JUST LIKE LAST TIME. LET'S HOPE I DON'T HAVE TO PUT YOU THROUGH ALL THAT PAIN AGAIN, HUH?

WELL, THINGS ARE A LITTLE DIFFERENT THIS TIME, TONY...

VISION...

AAAGGHH!

IRON MAN'S ARMOR IS COMPROMISED, CAPTAIN.

NOW I'M FIGHTING *DIRTY.*

UNGH!

IRON MAN!

THOU SHOULDST FEAR FOR *THYSELF*, MONSTER!

WHAT IN GOD'S NAME--?

BEN?!

YA REALLY THINK I WUZ GONNA SIT THIS ONE OUT EATIN' *CROISSANTS*? GET YOUR *ACT* TOGETHER, SUZIE! WE GOT *PEOPLE* TA PROTECT!

SORRY. NOT IN MY JOB DESCRIPTION...

SUSAN! LOOK OUT!

REED!

AW, MAN...

WHAT HAVE YOU DONE TO MY *HUSBAND*?

OKAY. THIS ISN'T GOOD.

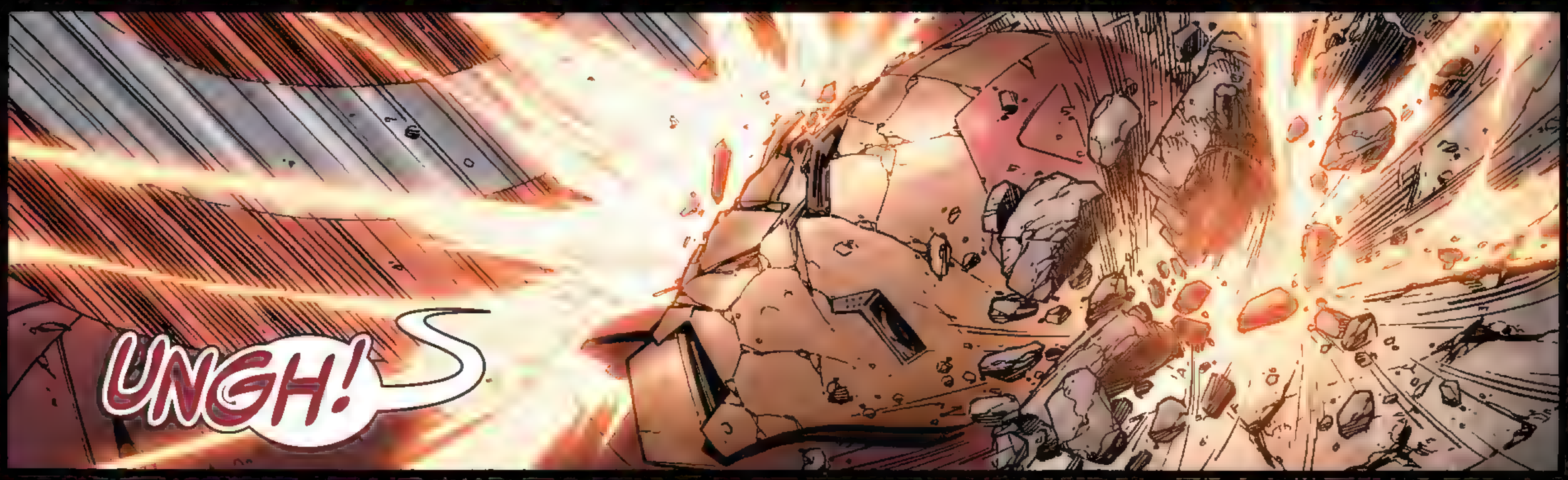
HOW DAREST THOU WEAR THE FLESH OF THE ODINSON?! I *KNEW* THOR...THOR WAS A *FRIEND* OF MINE...

AND YOU *KNOW* SOMETHING, IMPOSTOR?

THOU ART NO THOR!

НППК!

HAKK!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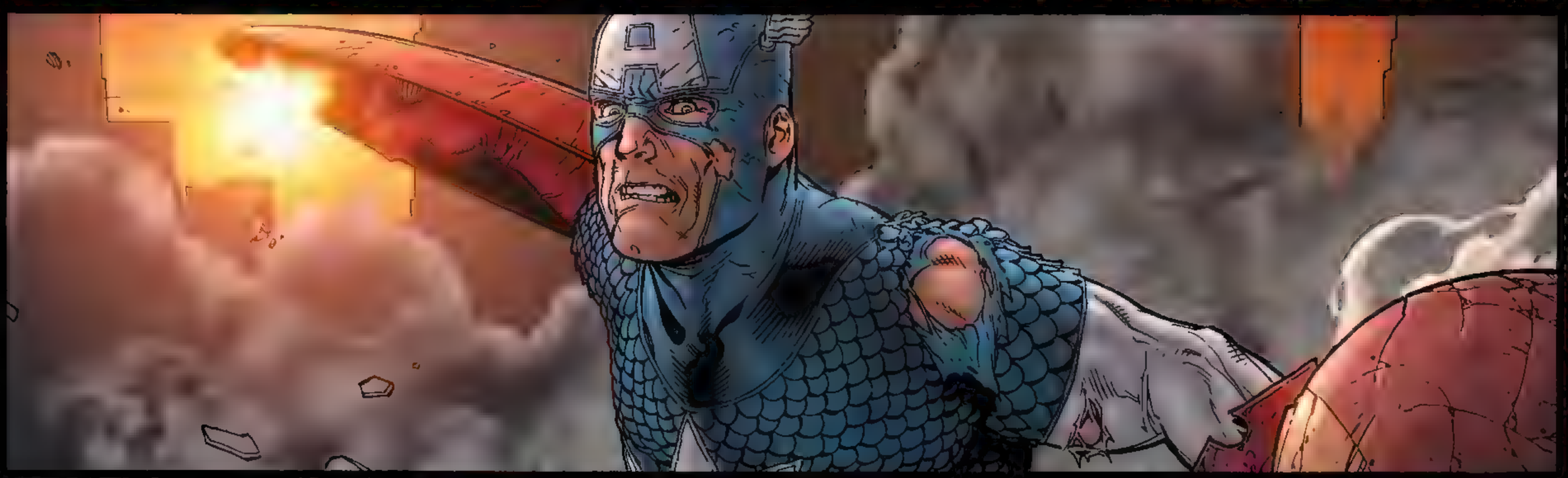
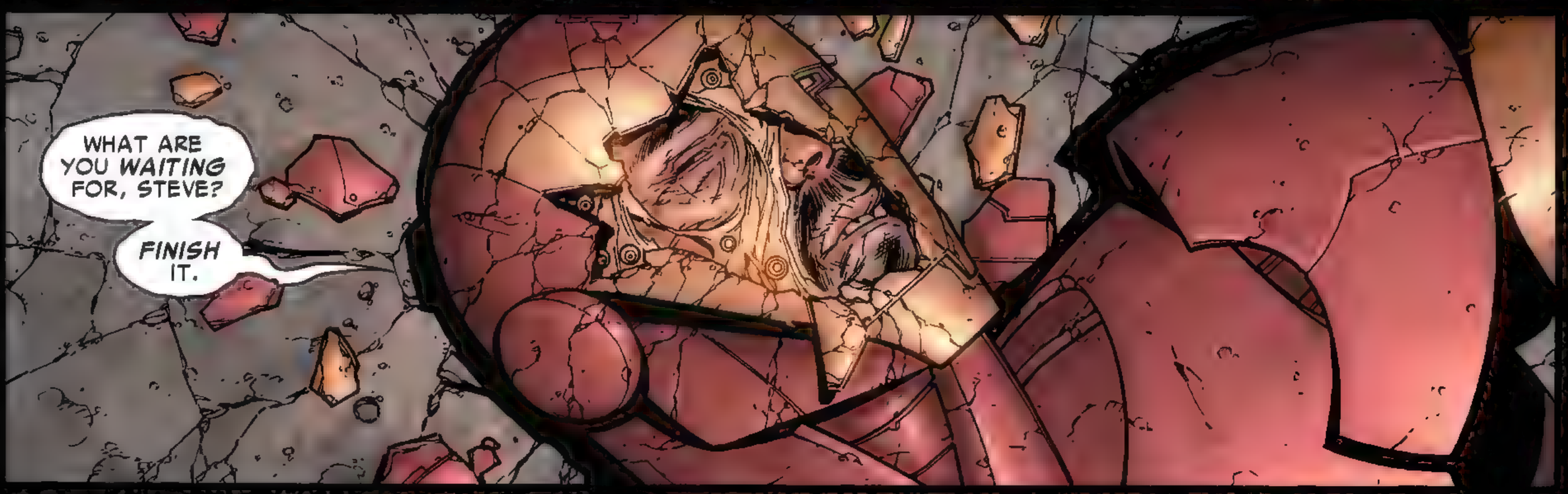



WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR, STEVE?
FINISH IT.

HURKH!

GET THE HELL AWAY FROM HIM!

HOLD HIM DOWN! HOLD HIM DOWN!

WHAT IN GOD'S NAME...?

LET ME *GO*! PLEASE, I DON'T WANT TO *HURT* YOU...

DON'T WANT TO *HURT* US? ARE YOU TRYING TO BE *FUNNY*?

IT'S A LITTLE LATE FOR THAT, MAN!

NOW RENTING

OH MY GOD.

WHAT'S WRONG?

THEY'RE *RIGHT*. WE'RE NOT FIGHTING FOR *THE PEOPLE* ANYMORE, FALCON...

LOOK AT US.

WE'RE JUST *FIGHTING*.

CAP, WHAT ARE YOU *DOING?* THEY'LL THROW US IN *JAIL* IF YOU SURRENDER.

WE WERE *BEATING* THEM, MAN. WE WERE *WINNING* BACK THERE.

EVERYTHING EXCEPT *THE ARGUMENT.*

AND THEY'RE NOT ARRESTING *CAPTAIN AMERICA...*

...THEY'RE ARRESTING *STEVE ROGERS.* THAT'S A VERY DIFFERENT THING.

CAP, *PLEASE!*

STAND DOWN, TROOPS...

THAT'S AN ORDER.

MY DEAR, SWEET SUSAN:

FORGIVE MY ERRATIC HANDWRITING. YOU KNOW HOW DIFFICULT I FIND SLOWING MY THOUGHTS TO A SPEED WHERE THE HUMAN HAND CAN TRANSLATE MY SENTIMENTS INTO LINEAR SENTENCES.

IT HAS BEEN TWO WEEKS NOW SINCE THAT TERRIBLE BATTLE AND I WAS PLEASED TO SEE THAT YOU ACCEPTED THE GENERAL HERO AMNESTY GIVEN IN THE WAKE OF CAPTAIN AMERICA'S **SURRENDER.**

I SAW YOU DURING THE CLEANUP, BUT FELT IT WAS INAPPROPRIATE TO DISCUSS OUR FUTURE WHILE OUR ADRENAL GLANDS MIGHT STILL IMPAIR OUR JUDGMENT IN ROMANTIC MATTERS.

YOU LOOKED SO BEAUTIFUL. SO VIBRANT AND CLEAR-EYED. I CRIED FOR A FULL NINETY-THREE MINUTES WHEN I RETURNED HOME THAT NIGHT.

F.D.N.Y F.D.N.

BY NOW, YOU WILL HAVE SEEN THE LAUNCH OF **THE INITIATIVE**...

...AT LEAST ONE SUPER-TEAM IN EVERY U.S. STATE.

I'M SURE YOU CAN APPRECIATE THE **PRESSURE** WE WERE UNDER...

...CREATING **NEW** HEROES, REVAMPING **OLD** ONES...

...DECENTRALIZING THIS COMMUNITY FROM A SINGLE COAST AND BUILDING A SUPER-POWER FOR THE **TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY.**

EVEN OUR CONTROVERSIAL PRISON IN THE NEGATIVE ZONE WAS MET WITH RAPTUROUS APPLAUSE WHEN WE FINALLY WENT PUBLIC.

HOW **FRIGHTENING** THE WORLD MUST HAVE SEEMED BEFORE THIS: VIGILANTES, AMATEURS, SUPER-VILLAINS BROODING IN CELLS THAT NEVER SEEMED TO **HOLD** THEM.

THE ONLY SURPRISE IS HOW WE WERE **TOLERATED** FOR AS LONG AS WE **WERE.**

OF COURSE, IT WOULD BE A LIE TO SUGGEST THAT **EVERYONE** IS HAPPY WITH OUR NEW ARRANGEMENT.

SOME HAVE MOVED TO CANADA IN THE HOPE OF A MORE **OLD-SCHOOL** CAREER...

MISTER FLIP

...WHILE A SMALL BAND OF CAP'S FOLLOWERS REMAIN RADICALIZED IN THE **UNDERGROUND MOVEMENT.**

DIG THE OUTFIT, MAN.

THANKS.

NOT TO MENTION CAPTAIN AMERICA **HIMSELF...**

BUT ON THE WHOLE OUR EXPERIMENT HAS BEEN AN ENORMOUS SUCCESS. WHAT ONCE SEEMED LIKE OUR DARKEST HOUR HAS BEEN TRANSFORMED INTO OUR GREATEST OPPORTUNITY.

HANK PYM: MAN OF THE YEAR ON HIS GLOBAL REVOLUTION.

WORKING WITH THE GOVERNMENT, OUR REMIT HAS MOVED BEYOND SIMPLY LAW AND ORDER AND WE'RE NOW TACKLING EVERYTHING FROM THE ENVIRONMENT TO GLOBAL POVERTY...

...TONY IN PARTICULAR.

CAN YOU **BELIEVE** THE NEW JOB THE PRESIDENT HAS HANDED HIM?

BUT THE OPINION POLLS AND UTOPIAN IDEALS MEAN NOTHING UNLESS YOU'RE HERE **BESIDE** ME, MY DARLING.

I PROMISE: **NO MORE TRAPS. NO MORE CLONES.** NONE OF THOSE **PAINFUL THINGS** WE HAD TO DO ON THAT PATH TO **RESPECTABILITY.**

NO MATTER WHAT WE ACHIEVE IN THIS **NEW AMERICA** WE'RE TRYING TO CREATE...IT CAN NEVER BE HEAVEN UNLESS YOU'RE HERE TOO.

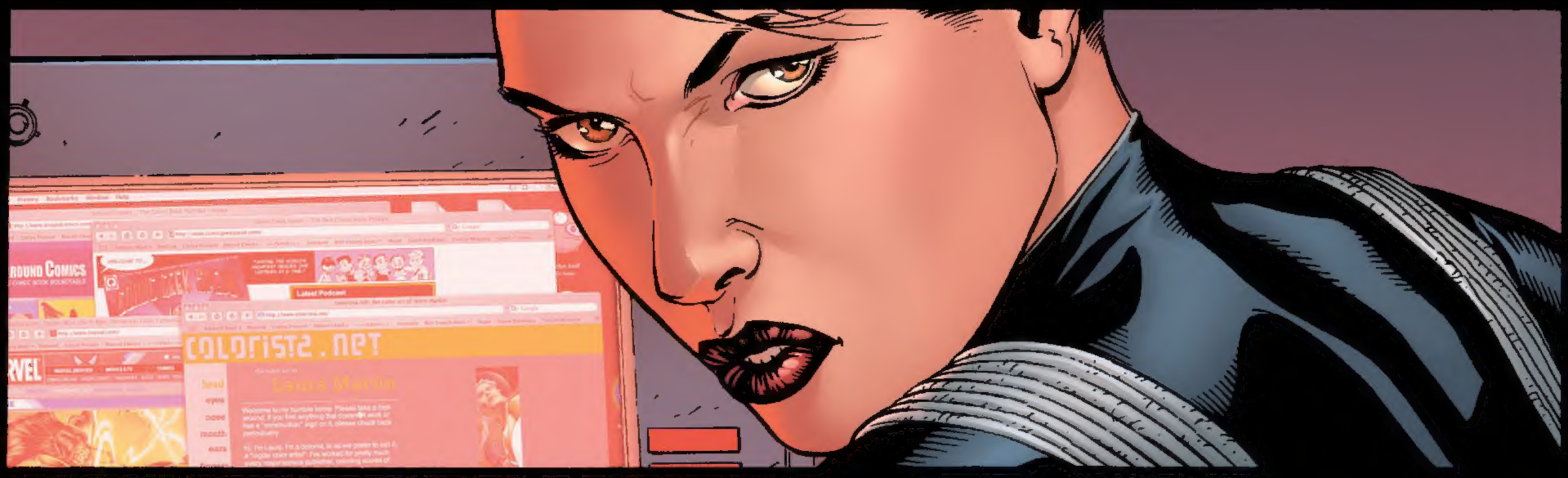
PLEASE, PLEASE, **PLEASE** COME BACK TO THE FAMILY WHO NEEDS YOU MORE THAN OXYGEN.

THE S.H.I.E.L.D. HELICARRIER, FIVE MILES OVER NEW YORK CITY:

DIRECTOR OF S.H.I.E.L.D.?

WHY NOT, MRS. SHARPE? AS A MAN WITH CLOSE LINKS TO BOTH THE GOVERNMENT AND THE SUPERHUMAN COMMUNITY, I THINK IT MAKES PERFECT SENSE, IF NICK FURY'S STILL AMONG THE MISSING.

UH, COULD WE HAVE A COUPLE OF *COFFEES* OVER HERE, PLEASE, *DEPUTY* COMMANDER HILL? CREAM AND PLENTY OF SUGAR?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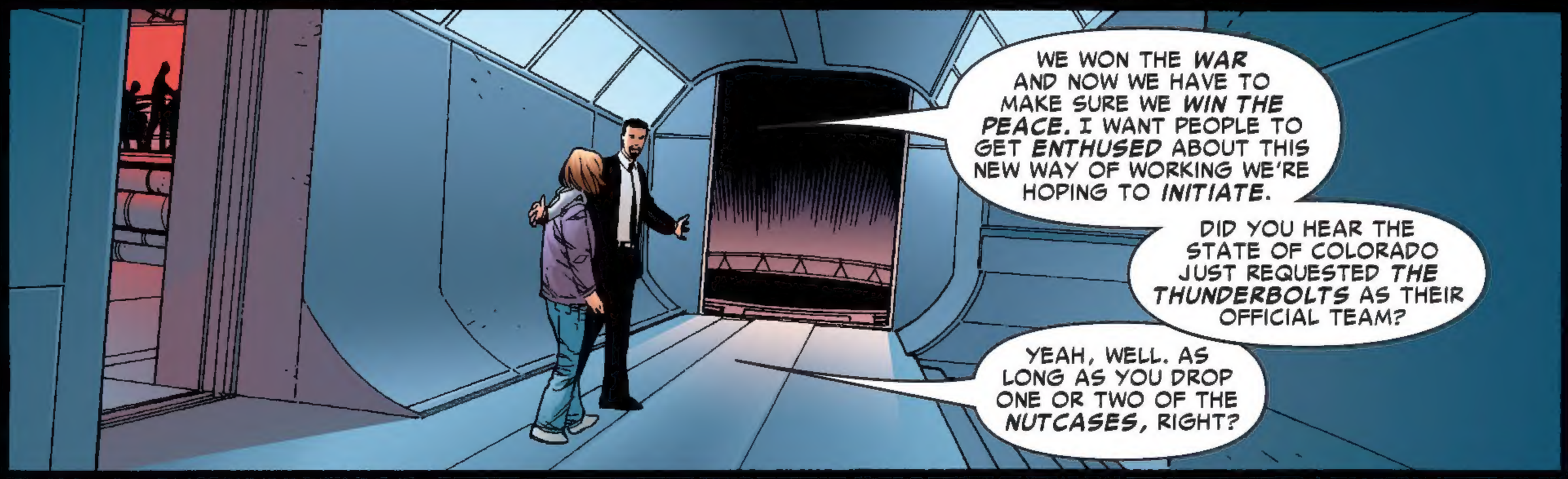
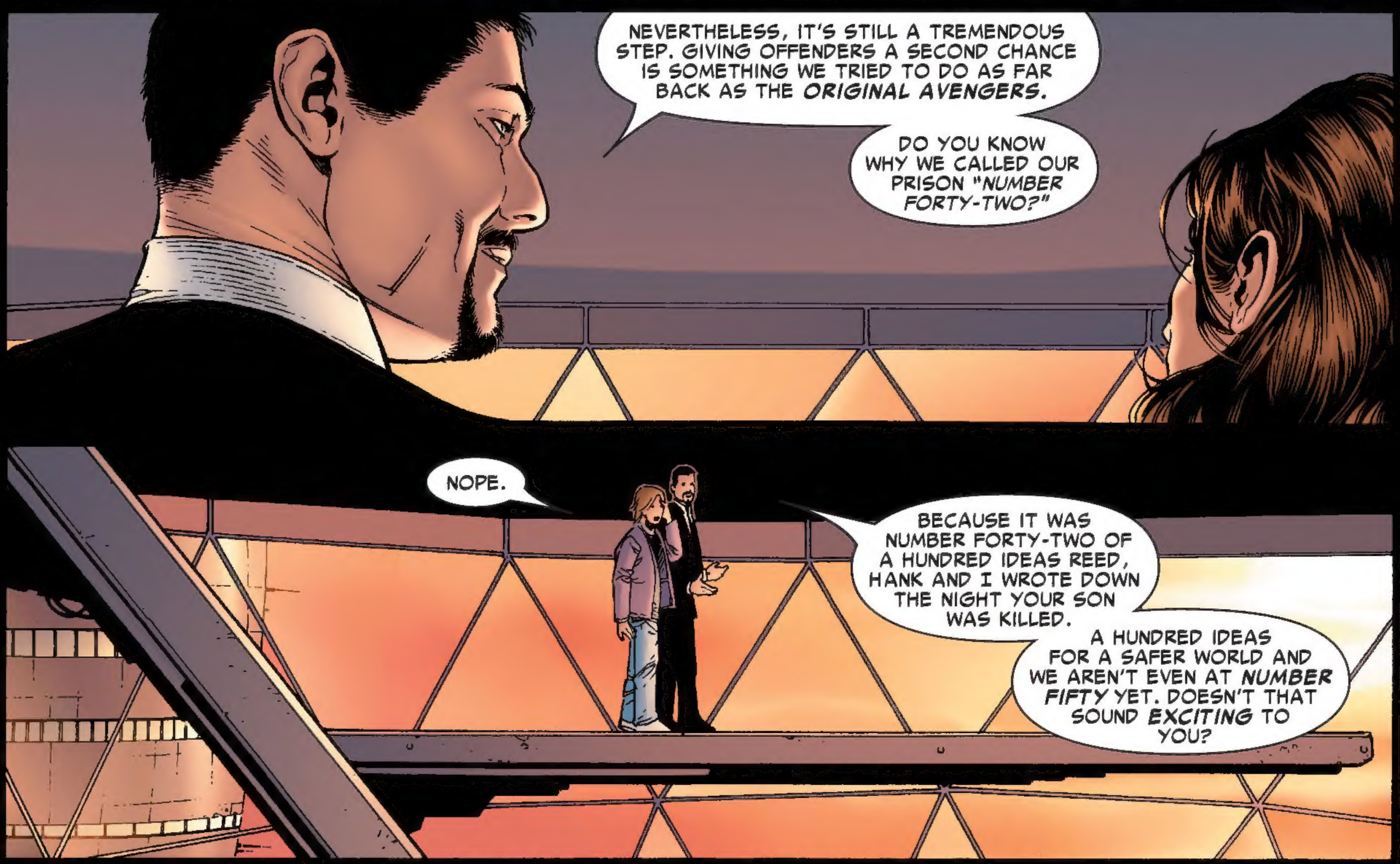

WE WON THE WAR AND NOW WE HAVE TO MAKE SURE WE WIN THE PEACE. I WANT PEOPLE TO GET ENTHUSED ABOUT THIS NEW WAY OF WORKING WE'RE HOPING TO INITIATE.
DID YOU HEAR THE STATE OF COLORADO JUST REQUESTED THE THUNDERBOLTS AS THEIR OFFICIAL TEAM?
YEAH, WELL. AS LONG AS YOU DROP ONE OR TWO OF THE NUTCASES, RIGHT?


NEVERTHELESS, IT'S STILL A TREMENDOUS STEP. GIVING OFFENDERS A SECOND CHANCE IS SOMETHING WE TRIED TO DO AS FAR BACK AS THE ORIGINAL AVENGERS.
DO YOU KNOW WHY WE CALLED OUR PRISON "NUMBER FORTY-TWO?"
NOPE.
BECAUSE IT WAS NUMBER FORTY-TWO OF A HUNDRED IDEAS REED, HANK AND I WROTE DOWN THE NIGHT YOUR SON WAS KILLED.
A HUNDRED IDEAS FOR A SAFER WORLD AND WE AREN'T EVEN AT NUMBER FIFTY YET. DOESN'T THAT SOUND EXCITING TO YOU?

CLEANING UP S.H.I.E.L.D. IS NUMBER FORTY-THREE.
BELIEVE ME, MA'AM: THE SUPER HERO COMMUNITY JUST FOUND THE GREATEST FRIEND THEY'LL EVER HAVE.
DO YOU REALLY THINK I'D LET ANYONE ELSE GUARD MY FRIENDS' SECRET IDENTITIES?

YOU'RE A *GOOD MAN*, TONY STARK. YOU RISKED *EVERYTHING* TO GET US TO THIS PLACE, BUT I TRULY BELIEVE YOU'VE GIVEN PEOPLE HEROES WE CAN *BELIEVE* IN AGAIN.

OH, THE BEST IS YET TO COME, SWEETHEART...

"THAT'S A *PROMISE*."

END.

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ZOMBIE